

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	USSR (Latvian SSR)	REPORT NO.		25X1
SUBJECT	1. Port of Riga 2. Airfield at Riga	DATE DISTR.	26 February 1954	
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PLACE ACQUIRED		REQUIREMENT NO.		25X1
		REFERENCES		

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1.

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2. A small floating dock about 50 meters long and two small submarines were observed in a small harbor basin which was indicated as the Winter Harbor. It was located south of the airfield. Fifteen medium submarines were tied up side by side on the west side of this basin; their bows were made fast to the shore and their sterns were apparently made fast to mooring buoys. Two destroyers which had two stacks each were moored at the eastern quay of the basin. The destroyers had smokehoods of identical dimensions and shape. There were two masts on each ship. The foremast had a yard-arm. The aftermast was very short and it obviously served to hold a multi-wire antenna, which sloped down from forward to aft. A gray troop-ship, about 10,000-GRT, was moored at the exit of the western quay in the basin. It had a straight bow and it probably had a cruiser stern. There were two masts, one stack, and high midship-super-structures with two promenade decks. It was a three-island type ship. Fourteen or fifteen PT boats were observed on the water-course south of the Winter Harbor; some of them were drawn up on the shore.

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STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	#X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC							
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(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#")

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3. An airfield which was about two by three kilometers was located along the west side of the river [REDACTED] 25X1
- [REDACTED] The field had a runway about two kilometers long, which ran parallel to the river bank. There were several large hangars on the field. Many silver-colored aircraft, which appeared to be multi-engined aircraft, were in front of the hangars at the western section of the field. Five aircraft with swept-back wings were between the runway and the river bank; these aircraft were parked facing the runway. [REDACTED] 25X1
- [REDACTED] the empennage of the aircraft was seven meters above ground. There was no air traffic [REDACTED] 25X1
- There were hedges and shrubs along the banks of the river.

4. [REDACTED]

5. [REDACTED] Some parts of Riga were still damaged, and lighting in the town was rather poor. The soldiers observed in the town had white-bordered epaulets with two white crossbars. They wore well-cut uniforms and they did not carry any arms. They were apparently not required to salute their superiors. There were many naval personnel, mainly petty officers or warrant officers, who wore broad gold-bordered epaulets. A taxi ride from the harbor to the town cost seven rubles per passenger. Shops were less numerous than in Western countries but they were still open and full of customers at 2100 hours. The clothing of men and women in the streets was rather poor. Many persons wore quilted coats.

1. [REDACTED] Comment: These were probably M-Class submarines which have been seen in these waters frequently.
2. [REDACTED] Comment: This vessel was probably the SIBIR.

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